WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 23RD NOVEMBER, 2005*

Demand for Greater Nagaland

*1. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a persistent demand on the part of Naga leaders for the information of a Greater Nagaland with parts of the territories from Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam and if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether there has also been a demand for a separate State comprising of the Garo Hills, if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to address the problems of the tribal people in the North-Eastern Region so as to retain them as citizens of the Indian Union with equality and dignity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The demand for integration of contiguous Naga inhabited areas has been continuously raised by Naga leaders. A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted to hold dialogue with National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak/Muivah) leaders to find an acceptable solution to the Naga issue. The GoM had held talks with the NSCN(I/M) leaders between February-May, 2005 on these issue. The discussions are continuing.

(b) There is no proposal to create a separate State comprising the Garo Hills.

(c) Tribal people in all over the country including the North Eastern region have been given full equality under the Constitution of India. Special provisions have been made to ensure that they live with dignity. These include provision of giving large autonomy to the tribal districts in the State of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura under the Schedule VI of the Constitution of India, special provision for Nagaland and Manipur under Article 371A and 371C respectively. There have been emphasis on

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, the 23rd November, 2005 was adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of Shri K.R. Narayanan, former President of India and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

accelerated infrastructure development, employment and good governance. 10% of the annual plan allocation is required to be spent in the North Eastern States. Government is committed to meet and discuss the legitimate grievances of the people.

Bomb Blasts in Delhi

*2. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured in serial blasts in the Capital on the 29th October, 2005;

(b) how much compensation has been given to each of the affected persons and the steps taken for their rehabilitation; and

(c) whether Government have since identified the organization behind this dastardly act and if so, the details and action taken to arrest them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per the information provided by Delhi Police, 59 persons were killed and 224 persons were injured in the three bomb blasts in the Capital on 29th October, 2005. Seven more persons have died subsequently thus taking the death toll to 66 till date.

(b) The following relief/compensation has been approved by the Central Government/the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for the rehabilitation of the persons affected by the bomb blasts.

(i)Compensation by the Central Government.

Grant of ex-gratia amount of Rs. 2 lakh each in case of death of an adult and Rs. 1 lakh each in case of death of a minor by the Central Government as declared by the Home Minister.

(ii) Compensation/relief/reward approved by the Government of NCT of Delhi.

(a) Rs. 2 lakh each in case of death of an adult;

(b) Rs. 1 lakh each in case of death of a minor;

(c) Rs. 1 lakh in case of permanent incapacitation;